

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 SS-15 L-03

H-02 /047 W

----- 115850

R 231830Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 739

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, EWWT, ETRD, XL

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: NAMUCAR

REF: MEXICO A-334 (AND PREVIOUS); ECONOMIC ALERT LIST

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY LOCAL SHIPPING LINE OFFICIAL
THAT SAILING SCHEDULES FOR NAMUCAR ARE EXPECTED TO BE
PUBLISHED BY THE END OF THE MONTH. ACTUAL DATE FOR
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INITIATING SERVICE IS STILL UNCERTAIN, BUT COULD BE WITHIN

NOVEMBER 1975-JANUARY 1976 PERIOD.

2. NAMUCAR INTENDS TO CHARTER FIVE SHIPS OF 5,000 TONS EACH, BUT HAS NOT YET DONE SO. EARLIER BELIEF WAS THAT CUBA WOULD PROVIDE TWO SHIPS FOR CHARTER, BUT THAT NOW DISCOUNTED DUE TO REPORTED SHORTAGE OF TONNAGE WITHIN CUBAN FLEET. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT MEXICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY TRANSPORTCION MARITIMA MEXICANA (TMM) OFFICIALS WILL CHARTER SHIPS TO NAMUCAR, PERHAPS THROUGH PANAMANIAN COMPANY REPORTEDLY OWNED BY TMM GENERAL MANAGER ENRIQUE ROJAS. HE NOW CHARTERS PANAMANIAN FLAG VESSELS FROM THIS PANAMANIAN COMPANK TO TMM TO AUGMENT TMM'S MEXICAN FLAT SERVICE.

3. PROGNOSIS OF COMMERCIAL SUCCESS OF NAMUCAR STILL GENERALLY HELD TO BE REMOTE, EVEN BY SOME PRINCIPAL MEXICAN NEGOTIATORS. IT IS STILL VIEWED AS A POLITICAL CREATION OF GOM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, WHO HAS REPORTEDLY ORDERED THAT IT START OPERATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LOCAL ECONOMIC STUDIES INDICATE THAT IT WILL BE A ONE-WAY TRADE -- CARGO FROM MEXICOAND SOME CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES WILL MOVE OUT TO ARIBBEAN ISLANDS, BRINGING BACK VERY LITTLE IN EXCHANGE.

4. A FURTHER NAIL INTO NAMUCAR'S COFFIN MAY BE THE RECENT FORMATION OF A JOINT VENTURE IN THE CARIBBEAN OF FLOTA MERCANTE GRANCOLOMBIANA WITH THE NORWEGIAN COMPANY NOPAL, OPERATING OUT OF CURACAO. ACCORDING TO LOCAL SOURCES THIS NEW EFFORT WOULD INVOLVE UP TO ELEVEN SHIPS, SOME CONTAINERIZED.
BRANDIN

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Message Attributes

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